



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Purchase of Five (5) Mid-Size Paratransit Buses (\$227,667)

MEETING DATE: August 3, 1994

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council adopt the attached resolution to purchase five (5) mid-size paratransit buses for the fixed-route system from El Dorado Bus Sales, Inc., of Foster City, the low bidder, in the amount of \$227,667.80.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Funds to purchase five mid-size paratransit buses for the City's new fixed-route transit system are approved and budgeted through a combination of Federal Government and local transit funds.

Specifications for this project were approved on June 1, 1994. The City received the following three bids for this project:

BIDDER	TOTAL BID	WITH WARRANTIES	ALTERNATE A	ALTERNATE B
El Dorado Bus Sales, Inc. Foster City, California	\$221,542.80	\$221,542.80	(\$1,000.00) each	\$8,400.00 each
California Bus Sales Fresno, California	\$236,539.20	\$242,539.20	(\$2,500.00) each	no bid
The Bus Stop Newman, California	\$248,795.35	\$258,330.35	(\$1,150.00) each	no bid

Alternate A proposed an unleaded gasoline-powered OEM engine as a substitute for the diesel-powered engine specified. Staff recommends not taking the \$1,000.00 per bus deduction due to the higher maintenance costs anticipated over the life of the bus if an unleaded gasoline engine is used.

Alternate B proposed an alternatively fueled bus of the same size and capacity. The low bidder has included, at \$8,400.00 more per bus, a compressed natural gas (CNG) engine. Staff recommends not taking this alternative for several reasons:

1. the bidder did not meet the specifications fully for a CNG bus;
2. there is no fueling infrastructure or existing CNG fuel site locally,

APPROVED

THOMAS A. PETERSON
City Manager



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3. the operation and maintenance costs of CNG buses are likely, at least initially, to be higher than diesel; and
4. present staff mechanics are not trained in CNG maintenance and repair.


Additionally, the technology of CNG and electrically-powered buses is still in the early stages. As our consultant, Jim Brown and Associates, has stated: "It becomes a question of the higher cost of being part of the development process or the lower cost of taking advantage of proven technology at some later date." Staff does recommend that we consider alternatively fueled vehicles in the future.

After the bids were received, the City's consultant recommended that additional options, not included in the specifications, be considered. These items are:

Overhead handrail	\$ 150.00
Master electrical disconnect	125.00
Isringhausen Air Ride driver's seat	700.00
Exterior storage box (curb side)	<u>250.00</u>
Total Options	\$ 1,225.00 per bus x 5 buses = \$6,125.00

Staff's recommendation is that the City Council authorize the purchase of the five paratransit buses, with additional options, for a total of \$227,667.80. Even with options, at a price of \$45,533.56 per bus, El Dorado Bus Sales, Inc.'s bid is significantly less than the second low bidder. The fixed-route system is scheduled to begin in November of this year. To meet that schedule, these buses must be ordered now.

FUNDING: Originally Budgeted: 1994/95
Budget Fund: Transit
Budgeted Amount: \$375,000.00
Total Project Estimate: \$227,667.80
Bid Opening Date: 6/23/94


Jack L. Ronsko
Public Works Director

Prepared by Dennis J. Callahan, Building and Equipment Maintenance Superintendent

JLR/DJC/lm

Attachment

cc: Assistant City Manager
City Attorney
Purchasing Officer
Building and Equipment Maintenance Superintendent
Administrative Assistant to the City Manager Evans

RESOLUTION NO. 94-92

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A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL
AWARDING THE BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIVE (5)
MID-SIZE PARATRANSIT BUSES

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WHEREAS, on June 1, 1994, the City Council approved specifications and authorized the advertisement for the purchase of five (5) mid-size paratransit buses for the fixed-route system for the Dial-A-Ride Program; and

WHEREAS, said bids have been compared, checked, and tabulated and a report thereof filed with the City Manager as shown on Exhibit A attached.

WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends that award of the bid for five (5) Mid-Size Paratransit Buses be made to the low bidder, El Dorado Bus Sales, Inc., of Foster City, California;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lodi City Council that award of bid for five (5) mid-size unleaded paratransit buses for the fixed-route system for the Dial-A-Ride Program be and the same is hereby awarded to El Dorado Bus Sales, Inc., the low bidder, in the amount of \$222,667.79 including options.

Dated: August 3, 1994

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I hereby certify that Resolution No. 94-92 was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting held August 3, 1994 by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members - Davenport, Mann, Pennino, Snider
and Sieglock (Mayor)

Noes: Council Members - None

Absent: Council Members - None


Jennifer M. Perrin
City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

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